



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

**FBIS-AFR-89-206
Thursday
26 October 1989**

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-89-206

CONTENTS

26 October 1989

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

CEAO Summit Final Communiqué Issued 24 Oct	1
--	---

EAST AFRICA

Ethiopia

Rebel Radio Assesses 'Amhara Supremacy' [Voice of Oromo Liberation]	2
---	---

Kenya

President Moi Reshuffles Assistant Ministers [Nairobi Radio]	2
--	---

Somalia

Government Troops Reportedly Mutiny in Berbera [Radio of Somali National Movement]	3
--	---

Tanzania

Mwinyi Urges 'Strengthened' Ties With Zambia [Dar es Salaam Radio]	3
--	---

Uganda

Arrested Somalis Stage Hunger Strike [AFP]	3
Finance Minister Announces New Economic Measures [Kampala Radio]	3
National Currency Devalued [Kampala Radio]	5

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Vlok Affirms ANC 'Prohibited Organization' [SAPA]	6
Pik Botha Visits 'Troubled' Ciskei Region [Johannesburg Radio]	6
AWB Seeks De Klerk Meeting Over Security Issue [SAPA]	6
De Beers, NUM Reach Agreement on Wage Dispute [SAPA]	7
Commonwealth's Sanctions Position Criticized [Johannesburg Radio]	7
Adamishin Views Possible USSR Role in Talks [BBC]	7
25 Oct Press Review on Current Problems, Issues [THE CITIZEN, etc.]	8

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Namibia

Bushmen Battalions Demobilization Reported [Johannesburg Radio]	10
Pienaar, Ahtisaari Agree on Two-Thirds Majority [SAPA]	10
OUA Secretary General Holds News Conference [SAPA]	10
To Help Plan RSA Talks [SAPA]	11
Constituent Assembly Candidate Lists Published [SAPA]	11

Zimbabwe

President Mugabe, Delegation Return Home 25 Oct [SAPA]	11
--	----

WEST AFRICA

Burkina Faso

President Compaore Return From CEAO Summit *[Ouagadougou Radio]* 12

The Gambia

BBC Sees Economic 'Cold War' With Senegal 12

Ghana

Joint Session With USSR Begins in Accra *[Accra Radio]* 12

Guinea

French Envoy Meets Lebanese on Passport Issue *[AFP]* 13

Conte Tours Interior, Speaks on Constitution *[Conakry Radio]* 13

Ivory Coast

Houphouet-Boigny Returns From CEAO Summit *[Abidjan Radio]* 14

Niger

President Ali Saibou Returns From CEAO Summit *[Niamey Radio]* 14

CEAO Summit Final Communiqué Issued 24 Oct
AB2510144289 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
0615 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Final communiqué of the 13th heads of state conference of the West African Economic Community, CEAO, in Cotonou on 24 October 1989, read by Secretary General Mamadou Haidara—recorded]

[Text] The 13th conference of the heads of state and government of the West African Economic Community [CEAO] was held on 24 October 1989 in Cotonou in the People's Republic of Benin under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin, president of the Republic, head of state, chairman of the National Executive Council, and current chairman of the CEAO heads of state conference.

Present at the conference were: for Burkina Faso, His Excellency Captain Blaise Compaore, president of the Popular Front, head of state and head of government of Burkina Faso; for the Republic of Ivory Coast, His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the Republic; for the Republic of Mali, His Excellency General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People and president of the Republic; for the Republic of Niger, His Excellency Brigadier General Ali Saibou, chairman of the Higher Council of National Orientation and head of state; for the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Mr Mohamed Ould Nany, minister of finance representing His Excellency Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state; for the Republic of Senegal, Mr Seydina Oumar Sy, minister of commerce representing His Excellency Abdou Diouf, president of the Republic. Also present at this conference as observers were: for the Republic of Guinea, Mr Facine Toure, minister of transport and public works representing His Excellency General Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Council for National Redress and president of the Republic; and for the Republic of Togo, Mr Komla Alipui, minister of finance representing His Excellency General Gnassingbe Eyadema, chairman of Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic of Togo.

The conference noted with satisfaction the progress made in the attainment of the objectives of the community, in particular the consolidation of the gains made in the execution and follow-up of community projects and programs, and the implementation of community institutions in the member-states. The conference approved the results of the 24th, 25th, 26th, and 27th sessions of the council of ministers, and of the board of directors of the specialized institutions. The conference approved the programs of

activities of the technical administrations of the general secretariat, the general budget of the community, as well as the budget of the Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community, Fosidec, and fixed the amount of the Community Development Fund, FCD, for the 1990 year. The conference also approved the perception of community solidarity contributions. This new instrument of financing of the community's development actions and compensatory payments to member-states is intended to generate separate, permanent, autonomous resources that will be growing regularly and will be independent of national budgets and will work according to two fundamental principles of the community: equity and solidarity.

The heads of state expressed satisfaction with the spirit of solidarity, peace, friendship, and fraternity among the members of the community. They reaffirmed their faith in the community and expressed joy at the support and renewed assistance given it by friendly countries and the financial institutions as well as the international organizations. In order to achieve a better mastery of their development policies, the heads of state made an urgent appeal to these friendly countries, the international financing institutions, and the international organizations to contribute adequately to the search for a satisfactory solution to the vital problems of fair price for raw materials of agricultural, mineral, and mineral ore origin, of which the Third World countries, particularly the African countries, are the principal producers.

The conference congratulated the council of ministers, experts, and general secretariat of the community for the quality of work accomplished. The conference decided to entrust the current chairmanship of the CEAO to His Excellency Brig Gen Ali Saibou, chairman of the Higher Council of National Orientation, head of state. The next conference will be held in Niamey, Republic of Niger in 1991. At the end of their meeting, the heads of state of Burkina Faso, the Republic of Mali, the Republic of Ivory Coast, the Republic of Niger, the representatives of the heads of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the Republic of Senegal, the Republic of Guinea, and the Republic of Togo, expressed thanks to their brother and friend, His Excellency Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin, president of the Republic, head of state, chairman of the National Executive Council, the member of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin, the member of the National Executive Council, and the Beninese people for the very warm hospitality given them and the climate of friendship which they have enjoyed throughout the stay in Cotonou. [applause] Done in Cotonou on 24 October 1989: Participants in the conference.

Ethiopia

Rebel Radio Assesses 'Amhara Supremacy'

EA2410224089 (Clandestine) Voice of Oromo
Liberation in Oromo 0330 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Excerpts] One cannot speak of the Oromos and the Amharas in the same breath. Whenever the Amhara supremacy has been at risk, the Ethiopian rulers have started using one nationality against another to secure Amhara rule over the others.

To anyone who does not know the history of Ethiopia, Mengistu's outcry on 18 October 1989 seems new. However, if one compares Mengistu's plan with the system used to suppress the struggle of the people in the past, like that of the Oromos in Welo, Raya, and Bale, his program is outdated. [passage omitted]

Mengistu's speech was based on that. In his honeyed words, he presented the war as if it were being waged against the Oromos. When Mengistu tries to put the Oromos and the Amharas together, the Oromo masses must answer back. Mengistu's speech on 18 October 1989 was like that of a thief who is surrounded and unable to escape, and says: A thief! a thief! along with the people chasing him. His speech was aimed at using the Oromo people economically, and utilizing their manpower.

In his speech, Mengistu did not say the Oromos were oppressors, nor that they had supremacy in the Ethiopian empire, nor did he call for a position against them. Indeed, one could not say such a thing. So that is clear proof that there is no indication of Oromo supremacy at all.

There is nothing in history to show that the Oromos controlled other people, or imposed their values on them. Instead, they are the people who are not being recognized as human beings, and are being forced to live in a sub-human manner. It is common knowledge who has supremacy in the Ethiopian empire. Whose culture is being imposed on the other nationalities? Not the Oromo culture. Whose history and language predominates? It is no secret which language is being imposed on the rest. It is the language of the Amhara, who have supremacy in the empire. Mengistu's speech is proof that the Oromos do not occupy a high position. When he mentioned his forefathers, he never mentioned any Oromos.

Mengistu mentioned the name of Menelik, praising the man who enslaved the Oromos, massacred millions of them, and made them suffer to this day. If the Oromos were in a high position, Mengistu could have mentioned one, but who could he mention? There is no one. [passage omitted]

Since Amhara supremacy was secured, Mengistu and his friends have never talked about the Oromos. When Amhara power is threatened from all directions by various nationalities, and they are unable to repress as they would wish, why don't they include the Oromos? Why have they forgotten the Oromos when they have

recognized other nationalities, and given them so-called self-rule or autonomy? Why has not Oromo dignity been respected? Why have they not been considered human beings? Not even those who are trying to take power from the Amhara can say that the Oromos dominate the country. Instead, they can say to the Oromos: Arise against the Amhara supremacy, you are oppressed.

The Oromos are not even allowed to be a people in their own right, and decide their own destiny. The Oromos are cheated and used as tools. Whether it is right or left riding the horse, it makes no difference—they are still on top.

The saddle of political power in the Ethiopian empire is on the backs of the Oromo people. Just as a horse cannot choose which type of saddle is put on its back, so the people cannot choose their masters. The Oromos have no power in any form. Mengistu and his ilk can say what they like, since they cannot emerge from the dark night they have themselves created.

The Oromos are not regarded as human, either as individuals, or as a people. The Oromos want to get rid of this dehumanization in all aspects. They do not want to wield power over the aliens. The Oromos want their own freedom. That is the right of any colonized people, wherever they are. The Oromos want the oppressed people like them to be free, but they do not want to deny those peoples' rights.

The Oromos do not believe in the domination of one nationality over others. People can live in equality, respect, and goodwill if, and only if, they can first decide their own destiny in the way they want. Unless they achieve that, oppression, suffering, exploitation, and contempt cannot be prevented.

The Oromos cannot be cheated today by the Habashis' [Abyssinians] claims that they know better. There has been enough cheating in the past. The Oromos today have their own organization, led by the Oromo Liberation Front. The Oromos are struggling according to a single program to get them out of subjugation. They will free themselves of this contempt and apartheid, through their own bitter struggle, under the the Oromo Liberation Front.

Kenya

President Moi Reshuffles Assistant Ministers

EA2510084889 Nairobi Domestic Service in English
1000 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] His Excellency, President Daniel arap Moi, today announced various changes affecting assistant ministers. Mr Josiah Kimemia has been replaced by Mr James Kabingu Muregi as an assistant minister for environment and natural resources. Other appointments were as follows: The newly elected MP for Karachuonyo, Mr Lazarus Ombayi Amayo, is now an assistant minister for education. Mr Zachariah Maina, MP for Mathare, is an assistant minister for industry. The MP for Rangwe, Mr

Raymond Oloo Ndong, is now an assistant minister for commerce. Mr Peter Nang'ole is an assistant minister for livestock development. Mr Francis Thuo, MP for Kigumo, has been appointed an assistant minister for technical training and applied technology.

Mr Wilberforce Kisiero, MP for Mount Elgon, is now an assistant minister for water development. The president also announced the transfer of Zachariah Gakunju from the Ministry of Commerce to the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife.

Somalia

Government Troops Reportedly Mutiny in Berbera

EA2510195789 (*Clandestine*) Radio of the Somali National Movement in Somali 1500 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] A report from our correspondent in Berbera says that forces loyal to dictator Siad Barre from Berbera first base mutinied in the middle of last week and that the troops have broken up into two rival camps. It is said that the cause of the mutiny is the growing sympathy among the loyalist soldiers towards the Somali National Movement.

Tanzania

Mwinyi Urges 'Strengthened' Ties With Zambia

EA2410202889 *Dar es Salaam Domestic Service* in Swahili 1000 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Dar es Salaam—President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has said our relations with Zambia and other Frontline States should be strengthened so as to achieve the desired goal in the struggle for independence, peace, and democracy in the whole region of southern Africa. In a message to President Kaunda of Zambia to mark the country's national day, President Mwinyi said the Frontline States should take the opportunity which will be available after Namibia's independence, so as to completely eliminate apartheid in South Africa. President Mwinyi expressed hope that Tanzania and Zambia would make every effort to increase areas of cooperation in order to deal with the bad economic situation in the two countries. He said Tanzania intends to strengthen still further its cooperation with the preferential trade area and South African Development Coordination Conference countries in order to ease economic problems.

Uganda

Arrested Somalis Stage Hunger Strike

AB2510130289 *Paris AFP* in English 1043 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Kampala, Oct 25 (AFP)—Eleven Somali nationals arrested last month by the Ugandan border authorities at Busia while trying to enter the country

have gone on a hunger strike, the NEW VISION newspaper reported here Wednesday.

It said the eleven, who held Somali passports, had travelled aboard trucks disguised as turnboys (porters).

They were detained at Busia police post where they have been held since then. Their arrest coincided with the exposing of a racket in which some Somali nationals were arrested for illegally buying Ugandan passports for the purpose of gaining entry into Britain.

Two of them claim they are students while others say they belonged to the rebel Somali Salvation Democratic Front (SSDF) and the Somali National Movement (SNM) which are fighting to topple President Mohamed Siad Barre's Mogadishu regime.

Finance Minister Announces New Economic Measures

EA2410193889 *Kampala Domestic Service* in English 1000 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] The minister of finance is holding a press conference in Kampala on the state of economy. He told newsmen: I would like to report to you on the state of the economy and on the actions the NRM [National Resistance Movement] government is taking in order to address the nation's economic problems. As you are all aware, the NRM government took over a shattered economy. The government has taken a number of actions in order to revive the economy and foster economic growth. The areas of action have included:

- A. Stabilizing the security situation in the country;
- B. Rehabilitating the road network and other physical infrastructure, such as hospitals and some schools;
- C. Providing agricultural inputs in the form of tractors, fertilisers, pesticides and animal drugs;
- D. Increasing the supply of trucks and buses and;
- E. Rehabilitation of industries.

The above actions have brought about security of lives and property, eased the marketing of goods and services, improved communications, and have encouraged investment by local businessmen. Other major effects of measures the government has taken are an improvement in processing capacity. For example, cotton ginning capacity has increased after rehabilitating some ginneries. There has also been a remarkable improvement in power supplies from the Uganda Electricity Board.

For the private sector, the government has put in place various schemes, such as the foreign exchange credit scheme and the 100 percent export earnings retention account, where exporters of all coffee exports have been allowed to open up foreign exchange accounts in the commercial banks and use this money to import goods of their choice.

An additional measure that was introduced in order to encourage the diversification of the export base was to allow dual licencing of importers, where exporters are given both export and import licences at the same time,

so that they can bring into the country any type of goods of the same value as the exports. This liberalization by government has led to the export of pineapples, (?ginger), assorted fruit, and other nontraditional export commodities. The government wishes to encourage all Ugandans to use their skills to get involved in the export trade with the main advantage of the individual exporter using the money without restriction to bring the necessary goods and services.

On the inflation front, between July 1988 and January 1989, inflation was under control. The low inflation rates in this period were possible because government expenditure and credit were under control. There was an inflation explosion between February and May 1989 mainly due to two reasons:

1. In a bid to purchase farmers' produce, especially coffee, government injected a lot of crop finance in the economy. This increased the liquidity in the system and prices had to rise; and
2. For government to continue providing services, extra expenditure was incurred, especially on the security front.

Between July and September 1989, the country experienced increased prices in foodstuffs. This is a direct result of drought that has hit areas producing beans, maize, and matoke [green bananas]. Given that the rains have started, the prospects for better harvest and stabilization in the prices of foodstuffs by December are bright. Other commodities apart from food have exhibited general stability in prices, which suggests an increased supply.

Fellow countrymen, in spite of the above actions by government, new developments in the economy have occurred. The state of the economy in Uganda has continued to be influenced by the international economic scene, especially with respect to the trade in primary commodities. As you are all aware, Uganda is heavily dependent on coffee as an export commodity and coffee prices on the world market have been at an all-time low.

To illustrate the influence of the international economy on Uganda's economy, in 1986 the earnings from coffee exports were \$390 million. In 1987, coffee earnings fell to \$294 million. In 1988, coffee earnings were \$220 million. So since 1986, coffee earnings have fallen by 44 percent and this trend is continuing at a ruthless pace.

Total coffee exports for this year, 1989, are estimated to be \$195 million and, of this, cash dollar earnings [word indistinct] to the Bank of Uganda, will be (?under) \$150 million. This is only 38 percent of the cash Uganda earned from this export commodity in 1986. Coffee, being the main pillar of the economy, is now collapsing, given similar collapses in cotton, tea, and tourism. [break in transmission] The tax loss to the government per kg of coffee is 37 shillings and 40 cents.

The state of the international coffee market has, therefore, [word indistinct] the availability of foreign

exchange in the Bank of Uganda and tax revenue to government. However, in spite of these events, the government has continued to maintain the same level of producer prices. Ivory Coast, another coffee-exporting country was forced to cut the producer prices by about 50 percent in response to the general decline in the world market prices.

At this juncture, the minister announced new policy measures. The minister announced that the government, in its bid to continue creating the necessary conditions for a sustained and integrated growth in the economy and encourage the diversification of exports, has found it necessary to review the exchange rate policy.

It should be noted that in order to export commodities such as beans, the cost in local shillings to export it through Mombasa is 160 shillings per kilogram. The world market price per kilogram of beans is \$0.60. With an exchange rate of 200 shillings per U.S. dollar, this cost of export is equivalent to \$0.80. At the present exchange rate, therefore, it becomes uneconomical to export beans. Likewise, in order to raise small revenues for the budget, the dollar's tax proceeds converted at a higher exchange rate will yield more local shillings, and more services can then be provided through the government budget. It has therefore been decided that the exchange rate be adjusted from 200 shillings to the U.S. dollar [as heard].

The management of the exchange will continue to be flexible and the exchange rate will be reviewed regularly, taking account of inflation, other economic conditions in the country, and the encouragement of foreign exchange inflows through exports and other transfers.

Tax rates: in order to sustain production levels, and to minimize the negative effects of the adjusted exchange rate, the following taxes have been reduced with effect from midnight tonight [25 October]

- A. Beer: excise duties from 90 percent to 80 percent. Sales tax of 95 percent to 85 percent;
- B. Soft drinks: sales tax from 100 percent to 85 percent.
- C. Soap: excise duty from 10 percent to 5 percent. Sales tax from 10 percent to 5 percent. New rates on customs duties will also be published.

The government is in the final process of instituting an expanded open general licencing scheme, and putting in place a special credit facility to assist the industrial sector.

In light of the new exchange rate to the U.S. dollar, the government has found it necessary to adjust the pump prices of the following petroleum products effective midnight tonight. Super petrol, from 180 shillings to 200 shillings per liter; paraffin, from 110 shillings to 130 shillings per liter; diesel from 140 shillings to 160 shillings per liter.

In the light of the above measures, I am appealing to you, fellow countrymen, to (?base on) the successes already gained by desisting from speculation, which leads to

artificially high prices, and instead put in place long-term and sustainable investment ventures. I appeal to you to utilize the facilities government has already put at your disposal, so that productivity grows, and stabilization can be a reality.

The government will continue to create a conducive economic environment for investment. The challenge is now growth of the private sector to effectively participate in the economy, and for every individual Ugandan to increase productivity and prosperity of our mother Uganda.

The press conference is continuing.

National Currency Devalued

*EA2510082089 Kampala Domestic Service
in English 1700 GMT 24 Oct 89*

[Excerpt] The government has announced new policy measures, including adjustment of the exchange rate and the price of fuel in a bid to continue creating the necessary conditions for sustained and integrated growth in the country. Under the measures which were announced at a news conference by the minister of finance, Dr Kiyonga, in Kampala today, it has been decided that the exchange rate be adjusted from 200 shillings a dollar to 340 shillings a dollar. [passage omitted]

Vlok Affirms ANC 'Prohibited Organization'

*MB2610140089 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1049 GMT 25 Oct 89*

[Text] Bloemfontein Oct 25 SAPA—The ANC [African National Congress] was and would remain a prohibited organisation as long as it refused to commit itself to peaceful development, the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said in Bloemfontein.

Mr Vlok said the ANC was still a threat to the internal security in South Africa.

The ANC was currently engaged in an almost desperate propaganda campaign to gain acceptance, in which it tried to claim for itself government's initiatives to involve all population groups in constitutional negotiation.

Despite all its failures the ANC remained committed to violence, and consequently the whole world—including the Western powers and the Soviet Union—was now turning its back on the ANC, Mr Vlok said.

"Only this week the British minister of foreign affairs refused to meet the ANC because of its commitment to violence.

"The same day two limpet mines exploded in Cape Town, one at the BP centre and the other at a BP garage.

"I don't need to tell you that BP stands for British Petroleum."

There had been a serious development in South Africa because of the notion that the ANC had been legalised.

The notion had apparently arisen because of the recent release of security prisoners and "other statements that had been made".

Mr Vlok said: "I want to state this unequivocally: The ANC is and remains a prohibited organisation in the Republic of South Africa.

"The ANC will remain this for as long as it refuses to commit itself to peaceful development.

"If they fail to do so, there can be no place for them in the new South Africa."

According to the provisions of the Internal Security Act, it remained an offence to promote the aims of the ANC.

"I would like to state clearly that the South African Police will continue to rope in the organization (hok te slaan).

"We would not for one moment hesitate or apologise for this task."

The government was in absolute control of the situation in South Africa, and for that reason new initiatives could be embarked on, Mr Vlok said.

These included the release of people, permission for marches, discussions with leaders across a wide spectrum, and much more.

This caused the ANC "immeasurable problems".

Mr Vlok added: "While the ANC stumbles on in confusion, we in South Africa are steadfastly cutting open a bright new future for our country."

It was clear the ANC's Communist policies could only lead to failure. Even the Communist countries realised that the death bell had tolled for Communism.

Pik Botha Visits 'Troubled' Ciskei Region

*MB2610073889 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 26 Oct 89*

[Text] The South African ambassador to Ciskei, Mr Christo van Aardt, has arranged talks today between Ciskeian President Lennox Sebe and the chairman of the Border Council of Churches, the Reverend Bongani Finqa, to discuss the situation at Peelton and Nkqonkweni. Unrest has wrecked the area which was incorporated into Ciskei in August last year, leading to the proclamation of a state of emergency by the Ciskeian government.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said on inquiry that Mr van Aardt had visited the troubled region to assess the situation. He held talks with the Border Council of Churches and Ciskeian authorities. His talks with President Sebe were aimed at reaching a solution acceptable to all parties through the appropriate diplomatic channels.

Meanwhile, the Ciskei Supreme Court has ruled that the Ciskeian government acted lawfully in evicting Nkqonkweni residents, demolishing their homes, and preventing them from returning. The court also ruled that the state of emergency declared at Peelton East was lawful.

AWB Seeks De Klerk Meeting Over Security Issue

*MB2510104289 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1028 GMT 25 Oct 89*

[Text] Johannesburg, Oct 25, SAPA—The Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement, AWB] has requested an urgent meeting with the state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, to discuss the deteriorating security situation in the country and the Afrikaner nation's "rightful and historical" claim to its own territory.

In a letter to Mr de Klerk, the AWB leader, Mr Eugene Terreblanche, said he would also like to make use of the invitation that had been made to leaders of political groupings to take part in discussions with him.

He said the AWB was far and away the largest white extra-parliamentary organisation and was the true representative of the "boerevolk" (Boer nation).

De Beers, NUM Reach Agreement on Wage Dispute

*MB2510182489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1820 GMT 25 Oct 89*

[Text] Johannesburg Oct 25 SAPA—De Beers Consolidated Mines and the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) have come to an agreement over a wage dispute and workers will be back on shift on Wednesday night.

A joint statement issued in Johannesburg on Wednesday evening said the agreement between de Beers and NUM provided for increases to members' basic rates of between 16.5 and 18 per cent.

The company had also granted members June 16 as a paid holiday, and had back-dated the wage agreement to May 1 in the form of a lump-sum payment.

Commonwealth's Sanctions Position Criticized

*MB2610053389 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 26 Oct 89*

[Station commentary]

[Text] The recriminations with which another Commonwealth conference has ended were an appropriate footnote to the hypocritical cant which again characterised that body's discussions on South Africa.

As usual, the most intemperate attacks and sanctions demands came from two distinct groups, those whose major exports compete in world markets with South African exports, and those whose trade with it is proportionately the highest in the Commonwealth. In the same category were the grandiose claims about the effectiveness of Commonwealth sanctions in bringing about reforms.

This led Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to remark scathingly that since government leaders were well aware that changes taking place in South Africa made the abolition of apartheid inevitable anyway, they were trying to take unearned credit for its going.

Indeed the scope and pace of reform, has now reached a point at which even the severest critics are having to concede grudgingly that there have been changes. One of them was the Canadian prime minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, who made the acknowledgement even while calling for additional punitive measures.

It is the transparent attempt by the campaigners to attribute the changes to sanctions, rather than admitting that the sanctions have been ill advised, to which Mrs Thatcher has drawn attention. Her recognition that apartheid is on the way out echoes what South Africans have for the past decade been saying is the end goal of the country's reform program. As long ago as 1985 America's then secretary of state, Mr George Shultz, noted that there had been more changes in the country in the previous 5 years than in the preceding 50.

It is a matter of record that a comprehensive program of social, economic, and political reforms has been unfolding systematically since long before Commonwealth sanctions were introduced. If sanctions have had any effect on the process, it has been to hinder it by fostering radical intransigence on both the left and the right.

But Mrs Thatcher's comment on the demise of apartheid also acknowledged the rise of a new mood inside South Africa. It is the belief that the time is ripe for all now to come together to devise the new South Africa.

A determination to make real progress in removing obstacles to negotiation is evident across the political spectrum. This week President F.W. de Klerk confirmed that recent initiatives were only a prelude to what needed to be done.

South Africans should not expect the period ahead to be a restful one of calm consolidation, he said. Rather, it would be one of orderly, but dramatic, change. As with past reforms, it will not be the sanctioneers but South Africans dedicated to the peaceful negotiation of a democratic society who will determine the pace and direction of future change.

Adamishin Views Possible USSR Role in Talks

*MB2510190589 London BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 25 Oct 89*

[From the "Focus on Africa" Program]

[Text] The Soviet Union has traditionally been regarded as something of a bogeyman by South Africa's rulers, but things are changing in that respect as in so many other things. Today, the South African Broadcasting Corporation said in a commentary that the Soviet Union could play an important role in helping to initiate talks between the government and the African National Congress, ANC. Well, Soviet Union's Deputy Aratoliy Adamishin is in Paris at the moment. On the line, Julian Marshall asked him if the Soviet Union was prepared to help.

[Begin recording] [Adamishin] First, we are, the Soviet Union is, for peaceful solution of the South African conflict by negotiations. We realize it is not simple task, but it is the only way it can be settled. We don't want bloodshed and we don't want further troubles.

The second point, if there is need of negotiations, certainly, we may contribute to the fact that these negotiations would start. But it is necessary that both parties ask us about it. For the time being, maybe—I am 2 or 3 days out of Moscow, so I, maybe, can't follow the most recent events. We didn't get any suggestion on this point; but if it happens, then I think we may play a constructive role.

[Marshall] Are you in fact prepared to take the initiative on this matter? Are you prepared to adopt a more interventionist role?

[Adamishin] You know, both parties know about our (?disponibility) of playing this role. So, if they really want negotiations—and I am sure that ANC wants it; I am not quite sure that the other party wants it—and if they are going to have negotiations, and if they think it would be useful for both of them to have our efforts, our contribution, we are ready to do it.

[Marshall] The South Africans seem to be under the impression that the Soviet Union is the only major power with any influence over the ANC. How do you respond to that?

[Adamishin] You see, we are friends with the ANC and we have been in contact for the last 20 or 30 years, if not more, but it doesn't mean that we can advise ANC what they have to do. They quite autonomous on this point, but we know their position and their position is for peaceful settlement, for talks with Pretoria authorities. So, if Pretoria authorities would be ready to talk, I repeat, we may, if asked, have our contribution.

[Marshall] But could I put it to you, Mr Adamishin, that the Soviet Union could withdraw military support to the ANC...

[Adamishin, interrupting] Well, it is another thing, as you understand. It concerns our relations with the ANC and I don't think it interferes with the methods of negotiations. Certainly, the things can change and if there is a really constructive will from the part of South African authorities toward the abolishment of emergency state, release of the political prisoners, and so on, it may look in different light the question of military supply and other forms of our support to ANC. [end recording]

25 Oct Press Review on Current Problems, Issues MB2510150789

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

De Klerk Must Avoid Government 'Weakening' Image— Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 25 October in its page 6 editorial says State President F.W. de Klerk "did well to warn against international interference in South Africa's internal affairs." "Overseas governments believe that he can be persuaded (or browbeaten) into accelerating this policy (even if it appears to be going too fast for the likings of many of his fellow South Africans). But Mr de Klerk is not going to hand over the country to the ANC [African National Congress] or one man, one vote majority rule. What he is trying to do is to create a climate for negotiation, not a climate for abdication. Nevertheless, he will have to be careful not to give the impression, here or overseas, that his government is weakening."

THE STAR

Police Reputation at Stake—"Claims by a Death Row prisoner, Butane Nofemela, that he was a security police 'hit squad' member when committing the murder for which he faces the noose, need a much more impartial investigation than they are getting," states a page 28 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 25 October. "The State has rightly granted a stay of execution, but the allegations are so serious that it is quite wrong to put the inquiry into the hands of officials, even if they are a senior police general and an attorney-general." "The reputation of the police, finally, is at stake. They are the custodians of the law, but they are not the law."

BUSINESS DAY

Criticism of State for Savings 'Collapse'—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 25 October in its page 12 editorial publishes a graph depicting "the rise in personal taxes superimposed on the decline in personal disposable incomes." BUSINESS DAY does so because it can "think of no better way" to bring home to Kent Durr, minister of trade and industry, the "error of his belief that the collapse of savings during this decade results from the inability of South Africans to postpone consumption." "Durr knows, and he should admit it, that South Africans have ceased to save not because of moral turpitude, but because government has confiscated their money and squandered it on foolish self-indulgences, ranging from cars for Members of Parliament to forward cover schemes that protect and subsidise importers." "We urge Durr to study the graph until it is imprinted forever in his escapist mind. Then he will be ready to address the problem of savings."

NP Seeks To Persuade Whites of Need for Negotiation—Michael Acott writes on the same page that "the need to win the hearts and minds of its own supporters and of whites in general has been a subtle theme of the first two NP [National Party] congresses since the September 6 election." "The 'new SA [South Africa]' De Klerk promised when he took over the NP leadership in February is being fleshed out. The stated aim is a new constitution, negotiated around a table where the NP and the ANC are only two of many parties, and resulting in a discrimination-free country in which whites can still feel secure." Acott believes the NP "hopes it is offering enough to draw the ANC and others into negotiation, with or without preconditions. It clearly sees the need to persuade whites of the necessity for negotiation as a priority of equal importance."

SOWETAN

NP Seeks To Avoid Talks With 'Real' Leaders—"The National Party thinks it has found a way around talking to the real leaders of the black community—holding elections for the black representatives at the negotiating table," remarks Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 25 October in its page 6 editorial. "In Namibia the National Party agreed to have an open election for a

constituent assembly to draw up a constitution for the country. In South Africa the National Party wants to unilaterally draw up the agenda and decide the manner in which the constitution is to be negotiated."

TRANSVALER

Status Quo Unchanged—Johannesburg TRANSVALER in Afrikaans on 23 October recollects that "last week we really prophesied that the Commonwealth summit would be a forum of viciousness against South Africa. Not that it was a difficult task, because if we are not aware by now of the underlying sentiment at this summit we will never learn." "Now we know that not even President de Klerk's gesture of releasing eight security prisoners has impressed these people. South Africans should not get excited about everything said at the Kuala Lumpur summit. It has not changed the status quo. African countries will probably buy more from us because they need us."

DIE BURGER

Government Moves to Peace—Cape Town, DIE BURGER in Afrikaans on 23 October in a page 12 editorial notes that: "Attempts to start the negotiating process in South Africa are getting stronger. The NP's successful Transvaal congress last weekend clearly contributed to this." "It is indeed clear that the NP is committed to getting the process under way. For example, President de Klerk is willing to lift the state of emergency in a responsible manner as soon as possible. But it can only be successful if organizations which advocate violence contribute toward this. If they show support for peaceful processes, organizations such as the ANC could, in fact, be unbanned."

Ghosts Haunting Left—"Strange developments have been taking place in the Democratic Party [DP], a leftist movement consisting of those who do not belong together through inner conviction," asserts DIE BURGER in a second editorial on the same page. "The old leftist ghosts from the past are probably still on the rise. They are still going to haunt the left. The DP will learn the hard way that even if inner dissension is sworn with gimmicks such as troika, unanimity on principles and ideals will remain an important prerequisite for success in South African politics."

BEELD

Viljoen Issues Challenge—Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans on 24 October states on page 10: "Government's negotiation package is: an open agenda, an invitation to all who advocate a peaceful process, the release of important black leaders, and allowing black political mobilization, even the ANC, a political role. A new element introduced by Constitutional Minister Gerrit Viljoen is a special election to indicate representative black leaders for negotiation." "The new South Africa will not, as the proverbial Rome, be built in a day. A process implying a starting point is necessary. Why can't blacks present their conditions in the form of discussion instead of shouting from the rooftops? What could be an easier point of departure than the election of their own leaders? Dr Viljoen has issued them a challenge."

Confidence Crisis on Namibian Elections—In a second editorial on the same page, BEELD warns that "on the eve of the Namibian election a confidence crisis has developed, the essence of which is Administrator General Louis Pienaar's impression that the United Nations would only declare the election free and fair if SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] wins. If it is true, it is a disturbing thought, but one that needs serious attention in view of the longstanding anti-South African and pro-SWAPO UN attitude." "What happens in Namibia is determined by Namibians. South Africa will accept the outcome of the election irrespective of who wins. In the interests of the whole southern African region everybody, including the United Nations and the emotional Organization of African Unity, should do the same."

DIE REPUBLIKEIN

Genuine Freedom Must Be Permanent—"All parties in the Namibian election campaign place a special emphasis on freedom," writes Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans on 20 October in a page 4 editorial. Voters should ask what kind of freedom. "Namibian freedom should be genuine, not SWAPO's kind or that of one or the other of the opportunist groups." "Society must be free to develop." "Genuine freedom definitely does not mean that people are free only once, and then lose their freedom of expression. Genuine freedom presumes that the individual will always be free to exercise his rights." "Freedom that is not permanent is not genuine at all."

Namibia

Bushmen Battalions Demobilization Reported

*MB2510172289 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 1600 GMT 25 Oct 89*

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs says a visit by representatives of Angola, Cuba, South Africa, and UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] to the Bushman village of Omega in South-West Africa/Namibia has confirmed that the Bushman battalions in the area have been demobilized and disarmed.

The Department said in statement in Pretoria that the visit had been arranged for Monday [23 October] after concern by the UN and the recent meeting of the Joint Commission in Johannesburg on the question of the demobilization of the battalions.

The visitors were also informed about the social services provided to the Bushmen.

An aircraft was made available to observer teams in Windhoek to enable them to judge the situation for themselves.

Pienaar, Ahtisaari Agree on Two-Thirds Majority

*MB2610130489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1009 GMT 26 Oct 89*

[Text] Windhoek Oct 26 SAPA—The administrator-general, Mr Louis Pienaar, and the United Nations special representative, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, have agreed that the two-thirds majority principle to approve a constitution for Namibia be included in legislation currently under discussion.

A spokesman for the administrator-general's office, Mr Gerhard Roux, told SAPA in Windhoek on Thursday the two principals in the independence process would continue discussions today and both hoped the matter could be finalised soon so the legislation could be signed by the South African state president, Mr F.W. de Klerk, and promulgated next week.

Mr Roux said the 1982 principles included in UN Resolution 435, calling for among other things a bill of fundamental rights, were still on the table and it was a matter of finally deciding how they would be accommodated in the final draft or by some other means.

The release of the draft proclamation to political parties this week drew reaction from various quarters when the UN proposal made no specific mention that the constitution be adopted by a two-thirds majority.

More than 700,000 people have qualified to go to the polls from November 7 to 11 to elect Namibia's first constituent assembly in UN-supervised elections after 74 years of South African rule.

OAU Secretary General Holds News Conference

*MB2510155289 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1458 GMT 25 Oct 89*

[Text] Windhoek Oct 25 SAPA—The Organization of African Unity [OAU] believes SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] will win the Namibian election if it is free and fair, but the OAU has never stated that it would not accept United Nations certification of the result if SWAPO lost. OAU Secretary-General Dr Salim Achmed Salim said on Wednesday.

Addressing a press conference at the OAU observer mission in Windhoek after a three-day visit to the country, Dr Salim said the OAU was pleased with the job United Nations Special Representative Mr Martti Ahtisaari was doing to supervise the independence process and it would accept his certification of the election.

Although the OAU had supported SWAPO during the liberation struggle, as it had supported nationalist movements elsewhere in Africa since its inception, the OAU was taking the impartiality rule during the independence process seriously, he said.

Dr Salim praised all parties for their efforts to curtail violence.

He urged Namibians to make full use of the opportunity they had been given to decide their own destiny through free and fair elections.

"I commend the maturity displayed by the Namibian people and I hope that this is the type of spirit which will continue to prevail until elections, after elections and certainly after independence," he said.

He said his presence in Namibia was a sign of the changes that had taken place in southern Africa.

Asked about the 1982 constitutional guidelines, Dr Salim said he thought they were "sound principles" which should be very seriously considered by the constituent assembly, but it was not his role to tell the constituent assembly what to do.

He appealed to all parties, the administrator-general, Mr Louis Pienaar, and UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] to make every effort to educate voters before the election.

This was essential to counter the low level of literacy in the country and assure every voter of an opportunity to cast his vote correctly.

During his visit, Dr Salim met Mr Ahtisaari, senior UNTAG officials, SWAPO President Mr Sam Nujoma, and diplomatic observers. He said he had not tried to meet Mr Pienaar because he did not think the administrator-general would have wanted to meet him.

He had been willing to meet other parties, but only one had asked for a meeting, and had done so at a time when it was not possible because of a tight schedule. He left Namibia on Wednesday afternoon.

To Help Plan RSA Talks

MB2510155589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1521 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Windhoek Oct 25 SAPA—The Organization for African Unity [OAU] has offered its good offices to help set up negotiations in [the Republic of] South Africa [RSA].

Speaking at the end of a visit to Namibia, OAU Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim said:

"The OAU has always taken the position that meaningful dialogue which can bring about the desired results in South Africa is a discussion between representatives of the SA authorities and representatives of the oppressed people in SA.

"That is the dialogue which can culminate in the desired objectives both for the people of SA and for the international community.

"If at any time the good offices of the OAU are required for the purpose of facilitating that, I have no doubt in my mind that that type of facilitation would be mustered."

Asked if the international settlement process in Namibia could serve as model for change in SA, Dr Salim said it could be an example of a way to solve the conflict with international support and a minimum of violence.

He said the OAU wanted the abolition of apartheid in SA. How this was achieved was up to the principle parties involved in the conflict. "They can sort it out for themselves," he said.

Constituent Assembly Candidate Lists Published

MB2510111289 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1103 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Windhoek, Oct 25, SAPA—SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] President Sam Nujoma tops the list of SWAPO's 72 candidates for the constituent assembly to be elected in Namibia in two weeks' time.

Heading the list of its main rival, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA], is Mr Mishake Muyongo, senior DTA vice-president and former vice-president of SWAPO.

In terms of legislation arranging the United Nations-supervised elections each of the 10 parties registered had to submit their lists of candidates on Tuesday [24 October].

Following Mr Nujoma on SWAPO's list are vice-president Mr Hendrik Witbooi, national chairman Mr David Merero and secretary-general Mr Andimba Toivo ja Toivo.

The name of SWAPO's defence secretary, Mr Peter Mweshihange, appears sixth on the list. Other prominent figures mentioned are Mr Moses Garoeb, Mr hage Geingob, Mr Theo-Ben Gurirab, Mr Hidipo Hamutenya, Mr Niko Bessinger, Mr Hartmut Ruppel, Mr Daniel Botha and Mr Ben Ulenga.

Following Mr Muyongo on the DTA's list of candidates are chairman Mr Dirk Mudge, Mr Fanuel Kozonguizi, Mr Daniel Luipert, Mr Max Haraseb, Mr Gottlob Dan, Mr Piet Junius, Dr Ben Africa and Mr Barney Barnes.

Other prominent figures are Mr Alfons Majavero, Mr Geelbooi Kashe, Mr Katuutire Kaura, Mr Andrew Matjila and Mrs Anna Frank.

The president of the DTA, Mr Kau Kuaima Riruako, is not included on the list.

He said he had other commitments which would leave him no time to attend the constituent assembly's proceedings.

The leader of Action Christian National [ACN], Mr Jannie de Wet, heads the candidate list of ACN.

The leader of the exclusively white SWA [South-West Africa] National Party, Mr Kosie Pretorious, appears after Mr de Wet followed by Mr Walther Aston and Mr Ewert Benade.

The leader of the United Democratic Front [UDF], Mr Justus Garoeb, leads the UDF list followed by his deputies, Mr Reggie Diergaardt and Mr Simson Tjongarero.

The president of the Namibia National Front [NNF], Mr Vekuui Rukoro, tops the NNF list followed by Mrs Othilie Abrahams and her sister, Mrs Nora Chase.

The lists of candidates of five other parties have not yet been published.

In terms of proportional representation, each party will be allocated seats in the constituent assembly according to the number of votes it attracts.

Zimbabwe

President Mugabe, Delegation Return Home 25 Oct

MB2510203189 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2009 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Text] Harare Oct 25 SAPA—Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe arrived in Harare on Wednesday evening from a two-week visit to Japan and the Commonwealth heads of government summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

He was met at the Harare International Airport by Vice-President Simon Muzenda; his wife, Sally; cabinet ministers; service chiefs and members of the diplomatic corps, ZIANA news agency reports. With him on the plane were Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira and Finance, Economic Planning, and Development Senior Minister Bernard Chidzero.

During his two-week tour, Mr Mugabe visited Bangladesh, Japan, and Singapore as well as attending the Commonwealth summit in Malaysia.

Singapore was the country he visited before flying home on Wednesday.

Burkina Faso**President Compaore Return From CEAO Summit***AB2510205489 Ouagadougou Domestic Service
in French 1300 GMT 25 Oct 89*

[Excerpts] The heads of state and government of the West African Economic Community [CEAO] ended their proceedings yesterday in Cotonou. The heads of state of Mali, Niger, Ivory Coast, Benin, Burkina Faso and the representatives of the Senegalese and Mauritanian presidents adopted the community's budget. They also elected Niger President General Ali Saibou as the organization's current chairman. Captain Blaise Compaore, who has just returned to Ouagadougou, speaks with our special correspondent, Ohouna Dembe, about the conclusions of this 13th summit of the CEAO:

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] [Dembe] During this summit, the release of Moussa Ngom, Mohammed Diawarra, and Mr Diakite raised a lot of discussion. Can you enlighten us on this matter?

[Compaore] That is true. Before this summit, there were rumors about the imminent release of these convicts by the summit. But that is absolutely false. That would be very macabre generosity because there are many convicts in the prisons of member states who have stolen far less than the amount these three convicts stole but who have not been freed. I must admit that there was reference to this affair but it was at the level of the community's lawyers who were making a report on the case. What can be noted is that there is nothing new concerning Diakite and Diawarra. We now know the whereabouts of 4 billion CFA francs. There remain 10 billion CFA francs, which were deposited in Mr Diawarra's personal accounts. Our lawyers are still investigating the destination of operations on this account. Concerning Moussa Ngom, I think the situation is turning in his favor because he proposed certain arrangements to enable his release. He can now pay the 142 million CFA francs that he owes our community. That means that in his case, it is possible, also evident, that after this arrangement with the community he will be released from prison. That is the situation of the Diawarra and others' case. [end recording]

The Gambia**BBC Sees Economic 'Cold War' With Senegal***AB2510211089 London BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 23 Oct 89*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It seems as if something of a cold war is developing between Senegal and The Gambia, at least on the economic front. It follows the death of the Senegambian Confederation just over a month ago and the complete withdrawal of Senegalese troops from The Gambia. And from the Gambian point of view, it seems that Senegal is the instigator of an economic offensive. From Banjul, Babacar Gaye telexed this report.

[Begin studio announcer recording] It all began with

Senegalese customs officials imposing a limit to a mere 20,000 CFA francs, only amount of money Senegalese travelers could take into Gambia. The move was intended to discourage petty traders from buying up goods in The Gambia for resale in Senegal. But the notice has become less clear when the rule began to be applied to Gambians as well.

The next problem arose out of gas for cooking. Before the break-up of the Senegambia Confederation, Gambia obtained almost all its supply of gas from Senegal. Now the hotel industry faces a new tourist season with almost no gas for cooking. One enterprising Gambian even attempted smuggling it but he was caught. Meanwhile, the price of gas has gone up by 25 percent.

Also badly hit is Gambia's reexport trade which is suffering from Senegal's decision to raise the export fee for transit in lorries from 100,000 to 600,000 CFA francs. And the latest victim of it all is the Gambian Utilities Corporation. Lubricating oil, which is essential for electricity generators, is still entangled in Senegalese red tape. If it is not released within a few days, Gambia will suffer a total blackout. Even security cooperation has been affected by the break-up. Recently, Gambian gendarmes traced some stolen goods to the Senegalese village of Ndogane, but they got no help from their Senegalese counterparts and had to return home empty-handed. The situation has become severe enough to prompt a comment from President Jawara, but only to the effect that there was no point in consulting the Senegalese Government, as he was sure they knew what was going on. [end recording]

Ghana**Joint Session With USSR Begins in Accra***AB2410185889 Accra Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 24 Oct 89*

[Text] The first session of the Ghana-USSR permanent joint commission has opened in Accra. The session will discuss economic, scientific, trade and technical cooperation. The 4-day meeting will also review trade relations between the two countries taking into consideration Ghana's ability to use the proceeds from such trade to support her economic recovery efforts.

In an address, a member of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Mr Ebow Tawiah, urged the meeting to consider the willingness of the Soviet Union to assist Ghana in her economic recovery effort. In this connection, he said the chambers of commerce of both countries have an important role to play in the promotion and implementation of bilateral trade protocols for the mutual benefit of Ghana and the USSR. Mr Ebow Tawiah also suggested to the meeting to consider the rehabilitation of the prefabricated concrete project with a view to making it the cornerstone of the government's housing program. This, he noted, will not only enable Ghanaians to benefit from existing bilateral cooperation with the Soviet Union, but will also ensure the provision

of decent housing for workers, which is a top priority of the PNDC. He called for the setting up of two more technical institutes at Amankwaakrom in the Afram Plains and Wa to help develop hidden talents.

The leader of the Soviet delegation, Mr Konstantin Fomichenko, who is also the Soviet deputy minister for foreign economic relations, noted that the meeting is the continuation of the existing relationship between his country and Ghana.

Guinea

French Envoy Meets Lebanese on Passport Issue

AB2510223489 Paris AFP in French 2002 GMT
24 Oct 89

[Text] Conakry, 24 Oct (AFP)—Representatives of the Lebanese community in Guinea yesterday sent a memorandum to the press and expressed their indignation "over reports according to which certain Lebanese nationals (in Africa) have ties with terrorists." On 23 October, a five-man delegation—including Shiites, Maronites, and Druze—representing some thousands of Lebanese nationals resident in Guinea, was received by the French ambassador in Guinea, Mr Robert Thomas. The Lebanese representatives pointed out during the talks "the standpoint of the Lebanese community living in Guinea concerning the issue of French passports issued to some of its nationals," the communique stated.

It will be recalled that a French national who was a consular officer at the French Embassy in Conakry was recently charged by the DST (French Directorate for Territorial Surveillance and Counterespionage) for issuing French passports to some Lebanese nationals. One of these passports was used by a terrorist who was killed on 3 August 1989 by a bomb he was handling in a London hotel. The Lebanese community expressed "its astonishment and its indignation" in the face of these reports carried by the press. The community believed that this is a "campaign of denigration in order to tarnish the relations between the Lebanese outside the country and Africa on the one hand, and between them and France on the other hand."

Conte Tours Interior, Speaks on Constitution

AB2510171289 Conakry Domestic Service in French
2200 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Excerpts] As you know, the head of state continues his working tour of the interior. After Kindia, Labe, Kankan, and Nzerekore, General Lansana Conte explained the motives of the draft constitution to the soldiers and people of Faranah. The Military Committee for National Redress [CMRN] chairman met this morning with officers, noncommissioned officers, soldiers, and people of Guinea Forestiere. Gen Lansana Conte spoke clearly about [passage indistinct].

[Begin Conte recording] [Passage indistinct] The geographic location of the [word indistinct] was decided on after 2 October. The CMRN statement made proposals to

Guinean citizens concerning our country's future political and administrative life. We had to answer several questions in the areas we have already visited, beginning with Conakry. The proposals we made to the Guinean people are part of the commitments the CMRN made on 3 April 1984 concerning what our country's leadership should do. At the CMRN, we have focused our action on economic recovery because we thought that from 1958 to 1984, attention focused on politics without regard to the economy. We all know that politics without an economic base cannot be successful in the future. That is why we have been working hard to achieve economic recovery. I cannot tell you today that we have fully succeeded, but we have, in any case, laid the foundations and the success of this program depends on you, the cadres. Because, whatever our goodwill to do what is good for our country, if our cadres are not efficient and determined to solve our economic problems, all our efforts are doomed to fail. I must confess that the beginning was very difficult, because there are still among us cadres who, perhaps out of selfishness, ignorance, or misconduct do not want to perform their tasks satisfactorily to help our economy improve very quickly.

In 1984, the Army, through the CMRN, said that not only would it try to help the Guinean economy recover, but would also establish democracy in our country. After 5 years in power, and we are now entering the 6th, we thought it was time to set up some institutions showing that the CMRN is indeed on the right path and carrying out what it promised the people. Since the constitution was suspended on 3 April 1984, we have decided to establish another one. It is what we have called the Fundamental Bill. No country can be ruled without law and regulations. These are the rules we are now setting up so that all Guinean citizens can benefit from our country's welfare and prosperity and everyone can enjoy freedom.

Democratically, we believe that after 5 years in power the Army can now start building democracy. We are lucky to have Army officers who are not dictators and who wanted to do their best so that the people benefit from the country's welfare. But in spite of the people's approval on 3 April 1984 following the seizure of power, we realize that we have to set up and carry out the program we had adopted and give our country an instrument which could guarantee everyone's freedom. And this instrument is the constitution. [passage omitted] When the constitution is written, it will certainly play against vested interests. For example we will be forced to leave power. Therefore, if we are so selfish to stay in power and if what we promised in the constitution is accepted by the people, out of respect for the people and our word, we must go so others will come to power. These others should be elected by the Guinean people, not following some circumstances. When there are too many circumstances surrounding the coming to power in a country, I think this country will be unstable. We should not create circumstances leading to the seizure of power. We should not let ourselves be kicked out power. We should accept going when the time is appropriate. [applause]

This is to say that, despite, the Army's weapons, the Guinean sons who are in the Army know that they come from the people and will all return to the people. No one is born a soldier and except for the unlucky ones, nobody will die a soldier, since each one of us would rather die in peace among family. Therefore, we think that the time has come to do something so that the country is legally run by its sons elected by the Guinean people. [passage omitted]

People have shown concern over the Fundamental Bill, but it is only a proposal, a foundation we are laying. Of course we are going to be confronted with difficulties and we cannot prevent them. It is when we are faced with them that we will find solutions to overcome them. Some people have said if we create two parties, problems will arise. These parties have to be created first to know what will happen. People have asked many questions about the behavior of those who will come to power, as to whether or not they will act like the members of the old parties. First of all, we should know the programs of these parties so that we can decide whether they will be accepted or not since we are now in a democracy. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Ivory Coast

Houphouet-Boigny Returns From CEAO Summit

*AB2510144789 Abidjan Domestic Service in French
1245 GMT 25 Oct 89*

[Excerpt] President Houphouet-Boigny returned to Abidjan late this morning after attending the 13th

summit of the West African Economic Community [CEAO] along with four of his counterparts. The summit ended in Cotonou last night. The head of state left Abidjan on 23 October for Benin. Upon his return this morning he was welcomed by Mathieu Ekra, minister of state and acting head of state during his absence; Henri Konan Bedie, speaker of the National Assembly; Philippe Yace, president of the Economic Council; Germain Kofi Gadeau, the Grand Chancellor of the National Order; Ernest N'kouma Mobio, the mayor of Abidjan; and the members of the government. [passage omitted]

Niger

President Ali Saibou Returns From CEAO Summit

*AB2510172589 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 25 Oct 89*

[Text] We have just received the news that General Ali Saibou, the chairman of the Higher Council for National Orientation [CSON] and head of state, has just returned to Niamey after participating in the summit of the West African Economic Community, CEAO, in Cotonou. He was met on arrival by the political secretary of the National Movement of the Development Society, the prime minister, and the chiefs of staff of the National Armed Forces. He was then greeted by the members of the CSON and the cabinet.

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

27 Oct 1989

